**STATE OF WASHINGTON**

# DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

*1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581*

June 18, 1999

Mr. James E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division
United States Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A5-15
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

This is in response to your May 21, 1999, letter to the Washington State Department of
Ecology (Ecology) regarding the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Part A Permit
Application (Part A), Form 3's, for the Plutonium Uranium Extraction (PUREX) Plant,
Revision 9.

Ecology's June 4, 1999, letter to you stated that Ecology will *not* approve the PUREX      _50758_
Plant Part A, until discussions regarding the B Plant Part A, have been finalized. This
position was taken to promote consistency in the RCRA permitting process for the Nuclear
Waste Program, and in this case, for facilities undergoing transition under the Hanford
Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-PartyAgreement), Chapter 8.

Subsequent to the June 4, 1999, letter, discussions on the B Plant Part A have been
finalized. I encourage you to review the information being included in the B Plant Part A,
and include similar language, as appropriate for transitioned facilities, in the PUREX Plant
Part A. Specifically, Section III.C. must include a statement that reads:

> Treatment and storage capacities are provided to reflect past operations. Current
> and/or future PUREX Plant activities do not propose utilization of treatment or
> storage capacity beyond what has been agreed to for facility transition purposes
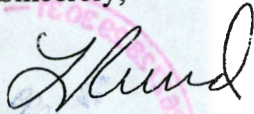> under Section 8 of the Hanford Facility Agreement and Consent Order.

If you have any questions, please call me at (509) 736-5715.

Sincerely,

Laura Ruud
Permitting Specialist
Nuclear Waste Program

LR:ld

cc:    Keith Klein, USDOE
        Sue Price, USDOE
        Steve Liedle, BHI
        Don Flyckt, RFSH
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